

RE: Pierce Oil Company, 1925 East Madison

OCT 30 1980

DATE: October 23, 1980

US EPA RECORDS CENTER REGION 5



582226

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
STATE OF ILLINOIS

On October 22nd, at 7:30 PM, I received a call from fire control to respond to Horace Mann Insurance at 8th and Washington Street. They were having a problem with a noxious odor and employees were becoming ill.

Battalion I and Commissioner Ward were at the scene when I arrived. After talking with the Commissioner, I proceeded to Pierce Oil Company.

On arriving at the plant it was very apparent that the odor was coming from the East Plant. I instructed the employees to start shutting down and to call Martin Pierce immediately and tell him to come to the plant as soon as possible as we had an emergency situation. At this time I had Division V, Chief Armstead and Assistant Fire Marshal Heaton respond to the plant with testing equipment. We had a reading of two parts per million of sulfur dioxide at the plant and just east of the plant.

I understand that Illinois Environmental Protection Agency was called into the incident and obtained a reading of two parts per million of sulfur dioxide also.

When Mr. Martin Pierce and I had a long rehash of the situation at this plant, the final conclusion was to have a meeting in my office the next day to come to an agreement so it would be possible to operate this plant.

On October 23, 1980, Mr. Martin Pierce came to my office with a signed letter of agreement. (See Attached) Conclusion of meeting:

1. The memorandum of October 9, 1980 (see attached) is temporary put on hold. Until a decision can be made on the feasibility of operating the East Plant it is not practicable to proceed with the relocating of tanks, piping, dikes, etc.
2. When a final solution of the odor problem is arrived at. A meeting shall be scheduled with all agencies concerned at the State Fire Marshal's Office and their plans will be re-accessed.
3. As the situation now stands, Mr. Martin Pierce can still proceed on some of the general improvements that have been discussed in the past.
4. If the letter of agreement of October 23, 1980, is breeched in any way or undue delay is encountered in it's implication, every course of action opened to Springfield Fire Safety Division shall be immediately activated.

xc: State Fire Marshal's Office  
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency  
Pierce Oil

*Howard L. Beagles*  
Deputy Chief Howard Beagles